



News in brief

Church to help hungry residents

Romulus Community United Methodist Church will once again open its food bank to residents in from 10 a.m. until noon on the second and fourth Tuesday of the month.

Shirley Hurt, the organizer of the food bank, said that after a period of re-tooling policies and procedures, the food bank will be prepared to help people who have fallen on hard times in a difficult local economy. The church, which is one of the congregations in Romulus – has operated a food bank for about a year.

The food bank is set up like a grocery store, so that residents can pick up the types of food they need – within certain pre-determined limits – and take it with them. The food bank, with only a few exceptions, will be open specifically to Romulus residents.

The food pantry is located at the church, 11160 Olive St. Residents will need to be on Medicare or Medicaid, or have a Bridge card and be able to show proof of income.

To make a donation, or to find out more about the bank, call the church at (734) 941-0736.

Parks jobs available

Job seekers facing a bleak employment outlook in Wayne County may be able to find some relief in Romulus.

The Romulus Parks and Recreation Department is currently looking to fill several seasonal positions. The jobs generally require the ability to properly maintain city parks during the warm weather months.

Qualifications for the positions include: a valid driver's license, the ability to perform manual labor, the willingness to work weekend and holiday hours, the ability to use basic tools, the ability to lift 50 pounds, the ability to stand or walk for long periods of time, the ability to work in inclement weather and the ability to work 20-30 hours weekly.

Applications may be obtained from the office of Human Resources at City Hall, 11111 Wayne Road.

All applications must be received by April 18.

Organization offers free parenting classes

Starfish Family Services will offer two new parenting classes beginning March 13. The 'Happiest Baby on the Block' will offer expectant parents, parents of babies 4 months old or younger and childcare providers tips and techniques on how to calm a baby and how to increase the amount of sleep received by newborns and parents.

The class will take place from 4-5 p.m. and will continue every other Thursday through April 10. In addition, a 'Love and Logic' classes for parents with school age children will take place from 5-6:30 p.m. on Thursdays through April 10 and is focused on providing parents with tools in raising happy,

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THE ROMULUS ROMAN

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NEWS YOU CAN USE, NEWS YOU CAN TRUST



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After 18 months, pact provides incre

Molly Tippen
Staff Writer

After 18 months of working without a contract, members of the Teamsters union reached a contract settlement with the city last week.

After members voted 56-28 to approve the contract, the Romulus City Council voted unanimously to accept the agreement Monday, though some did voice reservations.

"The only reason I'm voting to accept this contract is because the majority (of the membership) voted for it," said Councilman Harry Crout, who later said he thought some of the terms of the agreement could have been more beneficial to employees.

Romulus' Teamsters Local 214 represents about 90 public works employees and clerical staff who work in other departments. The workers' contract expired in 2006, and negotiations with the city had been thorny; to the extent that the entire public services staff was

attending city council meetings in unison to remind elected officials that an agreement had not been reached.

Under the terms of the four-year labor pact, workers will receive a 2.5 percent wage increase for each year of the contract. The raises will be retroactive to the date of the last contract expiration, and checks will be issued to employees after the city receives a copy of the signed contract, said Debbie Hoffman, city financial director.

City workers will also be contributing to the cost of health care co-pays, which will go from \$2 to \$3 to \$10 to \$20, with a 50 percent reimbursement.

Kathryn Bright, the union president of Local 214, said she believes the union made the right decision to settle the contract now.

"There were some things that we wanted to go to fact-finding on, but it became apparent that we could lose our retro checks if we did that," she said. "It was a compromise."

One of the sticking points was the promo-

tions process, which hinged solely on seniority. The union sought to maintain that system, and the city wanted workers to take part in an interview and test process.

In the contract, workers will now take part in an interview with a joint union-management panel, said Hoffman.

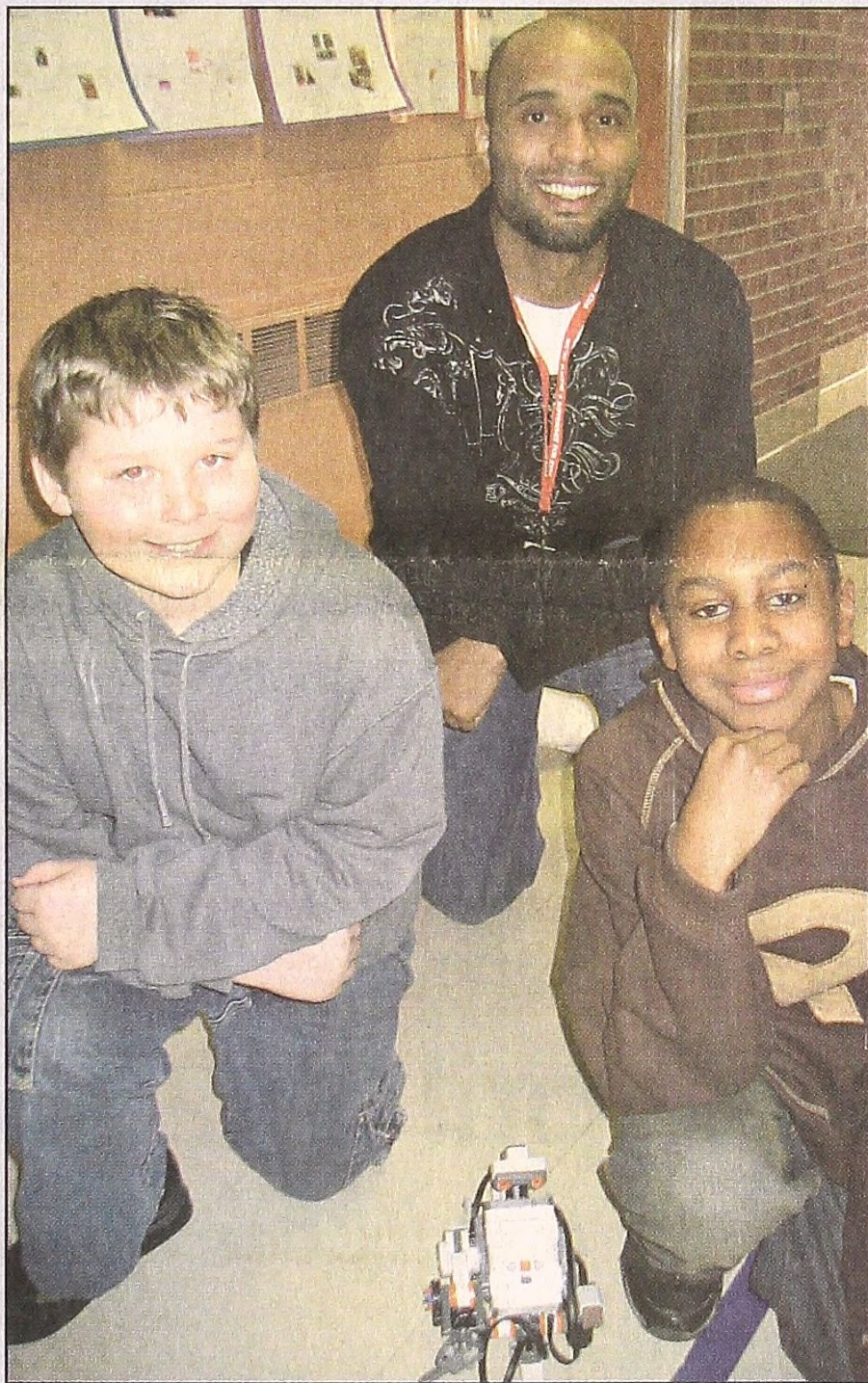
"We know there are things you always go after that you don't get, but we think this was a good compromise," she said.

One issue that wasn't resolved, from the union standpoint, was the wage study performed by the city for non-union employees, but would not agree – at least contractually – to do one for union members.

Hoffman said city administrators believe that with the raises, the employees are being adequately compensated.

In January, the union turned down a contract with the city almost unanimously. At that time, the city and the union agreed to go to

See Contract, page 4



Robotics success

Cory fifth and sixth graders have been able to construct and program Lego NXT Robots in after-school sessions this school year. Students are paired into teams for the construction phase of their robot, and then given specific challenges that require the programming of the robot. The robotic sessions are led by Cory teachers JC Commander (fifth grade) and Paul Grange (sixth grade). Pictured above with their robot are fifth-grader Kyle Hensley, fifth-grade teacher JC Commander and fifth-grader Byron Bradley.

Biodiesel plant is approved

Molly Tippen
Staff Writer

After representatives from a bio-engineering firm answered lingering questions about how by-products left over from the creation of biodiesel fuel would be disposed of, city officials approved the opening of a facility in Romulus.

John Decker, the chief operating officer of Bethesda, MD-based Alternegy, flew in from the Texas offices of the firm to answer questions posed by Councilwoman Ellen Craig-Bragg about the amount of potentially hazardous material at the proposed refinery site at Middlebelt and Wick roads.

"Hazardous chemicals can be a sensitive subject around here, and I just needed to know more about what those chemicals are, and how they would be disposed of," Craig-

The idea is to keep the money here in the United States, and to use something that is renewable

Market, assessments muddy budget

Scott Spielman
Editor

Officials throughout the State of Michigan might have a clearer picture of their revenue stream this week.

Many municipalities are beginning or are in the middle of their board of review process as they prepare for the impending budget cycle.

This year, with the real estate market in decline, there may be more question marks than in the past. While many home values are dropping, their taxable value—and therefore the taxes owners pay on them—are increasing.

"Sometimes, it depends on which neighborhood you live in," said Tim McCurdy, finance director for the City of Wayne.

Proposal A established the taxable value guidelines for assessments. It stipulated that the taxable value of a home is half of the selling price for the homes. It also set up two different ways for homes to reach that value. When properties are purchased, the value is uncapped to equal half of the sale price. Otherwise the taxable value of a home can only increase by 5 percent or the rate of inflation, whichever is less.

The county typically performs the assessment, while the local municipalities have individual board of review sessions. The county uses a market rate study that encompasses the previous 12 months—which has been shortened from the two-year study used until last year.

That works out to benefit home-

owners, according to Susan Ireland, executive assistant and assessment coordinator for the township, said Van Buren took the residential property from a one-year sales study, opposed to two years.

"If we didn't do that, it wouldn't have been a pretty picture," she said.

The legislation means that owners of two identical homes side by side could see different trends in their taxes. One who purchased their home relatively recently might see their taxable value go down, while the other who has lived there longer might see them go up—even if their property values decline.

Just ask Northville Township

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Bragg said.

Decker said some sulfuric acid would be used at the site, but that experienced contractors would be used to remove the chemicals when the need arises.

"We would use fully-permitted and licensed contractors to remove the chemicals off-site," he said.

Biodiesel is a clean burning alternative fuel, produced from a variety of fats and oil. It is a renewable fuel that is often touted as one of the solutions to weaning U.S. consumers from foreign oil dependence.

Though biodiesel contains no petroleum, it can be blended at any level with petroleum to create a "blend" that can be used in typical compression-ignition diesel without any engine modification.

The site at Middlebelt and Wick is adjacent to RKA Petroleum, a longtime Romulus business that has

See Plant, page 4

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State of the Township is 'busy'

Supervisor offers look at planned projects in community

Andrea King
Editor

It is already becoming another busy year in Van Buren Township, according to the State of the Township address Supervisor Cindy King delivered recently.

"Improved services will be unveiled in the public safety department and they will continue to work collaboratively with Belleville, Van Buren Schools and the community to address the challenges the district has faced these past few months at Belleville High School," she said.

"Township staff will continue to monitor the economy and efforts are under way to provide a variety of information to our residents to avoid foreclosures and new technology will be utilized whenever it makes sense so that the work we perform is of high quality and delivers a valued service."

King, who will complete her second four-year term this year, said it was only appropriate to commence the 2008 State of the Township address by thanking voters for supporting a 1 mill increase in public safety millage, which means improved services.

Our residents are our most valued asset.

Cindy King

"The extra mill will provide the township approximately \$1.3 million in additional funding to be specifically used for public safety purposes," she said. "We have hired four additional police officers, we are expanding the current zones, forming a special investigation unit and today, the township has two 24-hour, seven days per week duty crews, one assigned at each fire station."

Township projects King touched on included: the completion of fire station one, staff increases, the south side master plan, work on the equalization storage basin, the start of the water meter reading system, approved several tax abatements, the growth of retail developments and park improvements.

A big initiative was to be the first of the three Belleville area

communities to approve the Fred C. Fischer District Library agreement.

"The district library would provide an autonomous governing body separate from Wayne County and the communities of Belleville, Sumpter and Van Buren, as well as a dedicated source of funding for operational and capital improvements," said King. "Support for this concept of library governance must be made by you, the voters, first in voting to elect a district library board and second, to vote for a dedicated source of funding."

"The thought is that a dedicated library board whose sole focus is the library would be better poised to address operational and capital needs and communicate those needs to the community," she added. "If voters support



Cindy King

the formation of a district library with its elected board and voter approved millage, Van Buren would no longer contribute its general fund monies for library operations as library revenues would come from the millage.

"Yes, this means the township would have those funds to use in other ways—parks and recreation, senior services, public safety, etc, conversely it also means the library would operate as a separate entity from the communities with the ability to chart its

own destiny," King said.

King said there's a balanced 2008 budget increased over 2007 and more capital improvements on the way. She ended her speech stating that one constant is that the township remains a good place in which to live, work and raise a family.

"Our residents are our most valued asset," she said. "We value your involvement in the community, whether by serving on a commission, attending a meeting or calling or emailing us with your ideas and suggestions."

"We encourage you to visit our parks, enjoy a sunset on Belleville Lake, take a trip to the Belleville Area Museum or stop by the September Days Senior Center Hidden Treasures Gift Shop, sign up for a recreational class or a museum program," she added. "The A minus bond rating that township has maintained for the past several years is but one tool you can use to measure the level of leadership, professionalism and commitment we have to monitoring our municipal assets responsibly. Quality service is another. The board of trustees is dedicated to serving you. Our best wishes and much happiness and prosperity in 2008."

Church plans presentation of resurrection story

Andrea King
Editor

The resurrection story of Jesus Christ will come to life on stage during the "Every Tongue Confess" production at the POWER Centre Church International in Belleville.

For the first time, the church will present the resurrection story told in two forms: one through the biblical times when Jesus was alive and the other through a modern day period. Director and producer Andrea Dudley said each character will encounter different struggles, times and prayers they

have had in life with Jesus.

"It's drama, music and dancing," she said. "We wanted to be as inclusive as possible in the production and, we wanted to do this for the community and the new life empowerment facility."

Dudley said the hour-long production will let viewers enjoy powerful music, a dramatic script of testimonies and a different range of characters.

"People will be able to relate to a story that might be similar to theirs," she said. "It's also a festive atmosphere with the customs, banners, flags, and array of colors for move-

ment and lighting."

More than 50 church members will make up the cast, along with the Modern Messages Dance Company of Highland who will perform as well.

Michael Dudley, who plays the worship leader, said he creates the opening scene as the narrator taking the audience through time and history.

"It's a contemporary look at the biblical significance of the resurrection, but it's also relevant to the times," he said. "It speaks to the everyday person in modern day living."

"It's a great opportunity to participate and

get involved to present this powerful presentation," he added. "I enjoy giving back, sharing and being a part of a project that has impact."

Dudley said the musical phenomenon also has creative dancing, customs and special effects for the community to enjoy.

The POWER Centre Church International will present "Every Tongue Confess" at 7 p.m. on March 21 and at 6 p.m. on March 22 and 23. The event is free. For more information call the church at (734) 697-7705.

"It's definitely a community event for the entire family," said Andrea Dudley.

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is for Veterans Benefits to be topic of meeting

Veterans from throughout the area will have a chance to learn a little more about the assortment of benefits available to them on April 19.

The Westland Veterans Association, in conjunction with State Rep. Richard LeBlanc (D-Westland) and State Sen. Glenn Anderson (D-Westland), will host a veterans' seminar in two sessions to update men and women who have served their country about the benefit programs.

"We've been talking about it for quite a while," said Ken Mehl, chairperson of the Westland Veterans Administration. "It's really to explain to people what benefits or services they are entitled to."

The event will feature speakers including Brigadier General Carol Ann Fausone of the Department of Military and Veterans Affairs and Ken Terbrack of the Veterans Affairs Medical Center in Detroit. Representatives are also expected from Wayne County Veterans Services and Washtenaw County Veterans Service. In addition, a representative for Congressman Thaddeus McCotter is expected to attend.

Ultimately, Mehl said that the program would hopefully help people "take advantage of what's coming to them." For instance, he said that misinformation can prevent veterans who are slightly disabled due to service-related causes from seeking disability pay because they are not 100 percent disabled, even though their service entitles them to a little extra money even if they are 10 percent or 20 percent disabled.

The discussions will provide information on benefits the veterans might not be aware of, ranging from free medical care at Veterans Administration hospitals to free burials in national military cemeteries like the one in Holly.

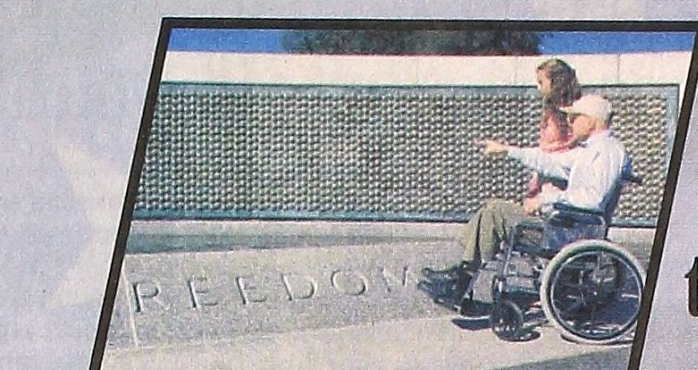
The first session will take place at 9:30 a.m. at the V.F.W. Harris-Kehrer Post 3323, located at 1055 South Wayne Road between Cherry Hill and Palmer roads. The second session will take place at the Sgt. Stanley Romanowski V.F.W. Post 6896, located at 28945 Joy Road.

Each session can accommodate about 300 people, but those spaces are expected to fill quickly. Due to the limited seating available, reservations will be required to attend and the sessions are open only to veterans and their spouses. The veterans need not be Westland residents.

"Every place that they have had this in other cities throughout the state, they've been full—they've had to turn people away," said Mehl.

If more people express a wish to attend than there is space, he said that the organization could offer a similar event in the fall.

For more information or to reserve a seat, contact Tony Wager at (734) 637-7992, Joe Tebor at (734) 377-8329 or Mehl at (734) 261-5955.



By
Meghan Chatham
Staff Writer

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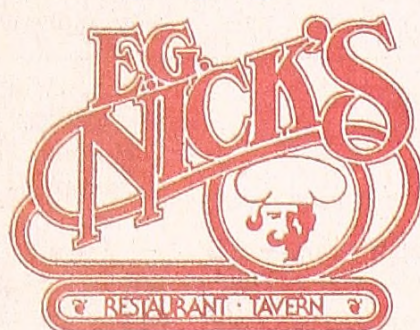


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Calendar of events

Story time is back

The Romulus Public Library will once again host Winter Story Time.

Story time is designed for pre-schoolers from the ages of 3-5. Crafts are included in the program.

Sessions are scheduled at 6:30 p.m. Tuesdays through March 25 and at 10:30 a.m. on Wednesdays through March 26.

There is no charge for families to attend.

The Romulus Public Library is located at 11121 Wayne Road.

For more information, call the library at (734) 942-7589.

Grief support available

The Hospice of Michigan will host two series of grief support meetings for anyone in the community coping with the loss of a loved one.

A series of meetings will be take place at 9 a.m. held on Sundays through March 16 at the Romulus Wesleyan Church.

Another series of meetings is planned at 6:30 p.m. Thursdays at the Romulus Public Library, starting through March 20.

Romulus Wesleyan Church is located at 37300 Goddard. The library is located at 11121 Wayne Road.

For more information about the seminars, call the Hospice of Michigan at (734) 769-4212 or visit www.hom.org.

Egg hunt under way

Children are invited to find all of the eggs hidden by the wily rabbits of the Romulus Recreation Department during the annual city Easter Egg Hunt.

The hunt – which will begin at noon—will take place Saturday, March 22 on the grounds of the Romulus Senior Center at 36525 Bibbins St.

Hunters will be able to pick up a bag for the hunt on the patio behind the senior center. Prior to the hunt, a pancake breakfast sponsored by the Community United Methodist Church Men's Club will take place from 8-11:30 a.m. at the church.

The Easter Bunny will also officially arrive during the event, and will pose for pictures with children for \$2.

Children will compete in four age groups, including 3 years old and under, 4-5 years old, 6-7 years old, and 8-10 years old.

Pre-registration is not required, and participation is free.

Community United Methodist Church is located at 11160 Olive St.

For more information, call the Romulus Department of Recreation at (734) 941-8665.

Softball leagues forming

Men's Sunday Softball "D" leagues are organizing for the 2008 summer season.

Up to eight teams are needed to complete the league, and games will take place at Elmer Johnson Park, located at 9755 Ozga Road.

Players need not be a Romulus resident to join a team.

Game times will vary from noon to 8:45 p.m. on different days.

Registration fees are \$500 per team, or \$50 to hold an individual spot. Those fees include umpire fees, the 18-game schedule, and playoff and tournament awards given at the end of the season.

A manager's meeting will take place at 5 p.m. on May 12 at the recreation department.

The softball league is sponsored by the Romulus Parks and Recreation Department.

For more information, call (734) 941-8665.

- Events are compiled by Staff Writer Molly Tippet. Information about events can be sent via e-mail to mtippet@journalgroup.com, or by fax at (734) 729-1840.

'Intergenerational' event brings together old, young

Andrea King
Staff Writer

Wayne County Executive Robert Ficano is helping to unite grandparents and grandchildren.

The 'Intergenerational' event took place recently in Van Buren Township bringing 35 seniors together with 22 students from Edgemont Elementary School in Belleville. Ficano started this program to get grandparents mingling with children, according to Jackleen Ochalek, executive assistant to the county executive.

"Today they're doing crafts and lunch will be provided, too," she said. "A lot of the seniors don't have grandkids so it's nice to match them up for a day. The kids learn how to do crafts, work together and meet new people."

Carol Shell, a member at the September Days Senior Center in Van Buren Township, jokingly said she wanted to inspire young people to be just like her. She was matched with Cheyenne Dalrymple, 9, a third grader at Edgemont.

"I think it's fun," said Dalrymple. "I get to meet new people and we learn things about each other."

Classmate Demeatry Brooks, 8, said he, too, had fun and was making many friends. He was partnered with Robert Lester, a member of the senior center for five years.

"I'm having fun watching all the kids," Lester said. "When I leave I think I'll be as smart as

him (Demeatry)."

Teacher Nancy Bateman said her third grade students won the opportunity to take part in the intergenerational event after they collected the most cereal box tops in a Parent Teacher Organization (PTO) project.

"The students weren't sure what to think at first, but after talking to the seniors they got to see they're regular people," she said. "It was nice because it helps seniors who don't have grandkids, as well."

Ficano said as soon as he saw the need, he wanted to start this program.

"Over the years a lot was not passed on from one generation to another so I'm glad to see youngsters with adults and, that there's learning going on both sides," he said.

"Wayne County Citizens Outreach is trying to do more and more," said Kevin Kelley, director of the department of senior citizen services and veteran's affairs for Wayne County. "Seniors around young people help keep them young and give them a zest for life. We enjoy working closely with your officials to get programs like this going."

Other free events took place throughout Wayne County and residents can expect another one soon in the summer season, Ochalek said.

"There's a demand for this from both the seniors and the kids," she said.



Carol Shell, a member at the September Days Senior Center in Van Buren Township, Cheyenne Dalrymple, 9, Demeatry Brooks, 8, and Robert Lester, also a senior center member, took part in the Intergenerational event hosted by Wayne County.



Sting nabs 27 child internet predators

Andrea King
Staff Writer

More than two-dozen suspects were arrested in Van Buren Township this weekend as a result of an Internet child predator sting by township police and Wayne County sheriffs.

The operation that was about six months in the making ended with 27 arrests from Michigan and one from New Jersey. The men—including one physician—ranged from 19 to 57 years old and used various modes of transportation to arrive at the staged house in Van Buren Township where they thought they were meeting underage youths for sex, according to officials.

Police said four individuals arrived in a taxi cab, one was dropped off by his sister, one rode a bike from Ypsilanti in 15 degree weather and, one person drove to the decoy home on a flat tire that was shredded by the time he arrived.

"He told the officers where he was going and proceeded to drive on his flat tire. He was riding on the rims," said Capt. Greg Laurain of the Van Buren Township Public Safety Department. "It just goes to show how persistent some of these predators can be."

From about 1 p.m. last Friday till about 9 p.m. on Sunday, under-

cover agents communicated on the Internet posing as children offering information as to their location. Predators from Van Buren Township, Belleville, Monroe, Farmington and Trenton—along with others—arrived at the decoy home and were arrested.

"We wanted the operation to be covert. We didn't want any unnecessary sensationalism," said Laurain.

"Their (predators) first reaction was denial, saying they're not there for sex, but they're there to just talk to the girl or boy," he added. "We wanted to send a strong message to the community that this isn't the kind of place to come and do this and if you do, you're going to get busted."

"This successful operation resulted in the arrest of several predators from our local area and surrounding communities," said Jerry Champagne, director of the Van Buren Public Safety Department. "This proactive sting operation was conducted to identify predators willing to travel to our area and warn others that they will be arrested if they prey on our children for sex."

Along with the help of Perverted Justice, a volunteer video-audio surveillance company, phase two of the sting will be an additional round of arrests for those individuals who transmitted

sexually explicit material online to agents posing as minors, but didn't travel to the decoy location. It's expected to bring the total number of arrests to more than 50, police said.

"Even with the level of attention that these kinds of stings attract, the fact that so many men are still lining up to meet children for sex over the Internet should send shock waves through the home of any parent," said Warren Evans, Wayne County Sheriff. "As many predators as we have caught and convicted, it only scratches the surface of what's out there. Parents must take an active role in monitoring what their kids are doing online to keep them from putting themselves at risk."

All suspects were arraigned at the 34th District Court in Romulus and were given \$50,000 cash bonds each, according to police.

"Law enforcement has a clear choice in dealing with the danger of Internet predators—either react after a child has been subjected to an assault or be proactive and intervene before they can harm a child. For us, this is an easy choice," said Attorney General Mike Cox. "I also want to single out the Wayne County Sheriff's Office and the Van Buren Township Police for their work and professionalism. They did an outstanding job."

Contract

FROM PAGE 1

fact-finding, which would allow both to further research and back up their point of view on the many issues affecting the contract.

Bright said that uncertainty about the contract is likely what made workers approve the agreement.

Assessments

FROM PAGE 1

Treasurer Dick Henningsen. His property value went down 16 percent, but his taxes increased since he has lived in his home for more than 20 years.

"There's still a big gap there," he said. "The only one this really helps is people who haven't lived in one place for a long time."

That can spell bad news for residents in established communities, like the City of Northville.

"We tend to get a lot of long-term

"I don't think we could risk losing anything," she said.

Hoffman said the health care copay provisions were "huge" for the city.

"Without that money, we wouldn't be able to give them the raises," she said.

Working without a contract for 18 months placed a strain on workers, who have seen the price of everything from food to gas go up in the recent past, and saw department heads and other non-

residents just because of the type of community it is," said Northville Assessor Jennifer Shepardson. "Still, under Proposal A, those residents are still saving, even if they're not saving as much. Without Proposal A, they would've been paying on taxable value all along."

The general drop in taxable value, though, has meant fewer crowds at boards of review. In Wayne, spots were still open. Romulus saw only 55 appointments—a decrease from previous years, said City Assessor Julie Albert.

The economy can hit school districts particularly hard, since

unionized employees granted pay increases, union representatives said.

Collective bargaining agreements for municipal workers differ from their police and fire counterparts in several ways, the most important being that police and fire can go to arbitration, where a third party will assess the needs of employees and the city, and impose a binding agreement on both sides when they cannot come to a consensus on their own.

schools are funded through a combination of sales taxes and property taxes. People are purchasing fewer taxable items and property values are declining. Patti Brand, the assistant superintendent of finance for the Plymouth-Canton Community School District, said she's concerned Lansing officials will be able to make good on the \$204 increase in per pupil funding they promised for the 2008-2009 year.

"Anything that gets reduced ultimately has a negative impact on the state," she said. "Anytime property values are reduced the state has to find another way to get funds."

Plant

FROM PAGE 1

a partnership with Alternegy. Feedstock and other materials are generally brought in by rail, which made the Romulus site attractive because of its proximity to the railroad tracks.

According to estimates, the facility will cost about \$14 million to construct. When completed, anywhere from 10-11 million gallons of biodiesel per year.

Big incentives also helped the project move forward in Romulus. The council members also approved a 10-year tax abatement for the project. Decker also said the company secured Renaissance Zone status last month, and that more state tax breaks could be approved.

The push to create and use alternative fuel sources is touted by everyone from car manufacturers to President George W. Bush. Decker said that biodiesel is most embraced in Europe at this point, but that it's becoming more common in the United States as refineries continue to crop up.

"The idea is to keep the money here in the United States, and to use something that is renewable," he said.

The firm is also posed to add 30 more jobs that will be available as the project moves forward, Decker said.

Final site plan approval still needs to be worked out with the city planning commission, which will begin March 17, Decker said.

The current plan was also reviewed by the city environmental board, which will sign off on it providing all state requirements are met.

Decker said he's glad to finally have movement on the project.

"We're really excited about the facility," he said. "We can't wait to get started."

Briefs

FROM PAGE 1

healthy and cooperative children.

Dinner and childcare will be provided at the class. Both classes are free and open to the public. For more information, call 248-615-9730 ext. 4150.

The classes will take place at the Family Resource Center, located at 30000 Hiveley Road in Inkster.

OPINION

Voters shouldn't pay for political mistakes

Several months ago, our leaders in Lansing had a goal: to make Michigan a bigger player in the selection of the next President of the United States.

Months later, they may actually get their wish.

Sure, it hasn't turned out the way they wanted it to. The Jan. 15 primary was essentially a joke that wasted a lot of money and gave Michigan a black eye, not the national prominence they expected. The 'preferred' Michigan Republican candidate, Mitt Romney, bowed out of the race not too long after that. None of the Democrats even campaigned here and only one frontrunner—Hillary Clinton—

was even on the ballot.

So now it turns out that these Democrats who didn't think our state was worth their time need our delegates in order to secure the presidential nod for their party. Go figure.

Well, this debacle has proved a few things. It's shown that the previous way of selecting a president—with its reliance on the early primaries in Iowa and New Hampshire—needs to go.

It's also proved that the Democrats on a national level aren't too concerned about Michigan, despite its union-

heavy populace. They're just concerned about winning.

Talk is now spreading of a potential 'do-over' of the earlier primary, or a potential mail-in caucus funded by the Democratic Party. Neither of these is a perfect solution. At best they seem like a complicated way to disenfranchise the voters that weren't already disenfranchised because their candidate was not on the earlier ballot.

No matter what is ultimately decided, we hope two things are made paramount: that Michigan taxpayers not have to in any way foot the bill for this additional fiasco, and that the electoral process is not further damaged.

Prison closing requires planning

Officials in Northville Township received with glee on Tuesday news that the Robert Scott Correctional Facility would be closed within a year.

And well they should. This is long-hoped for positive news for Northville Township and the immediate environs.

It's impossible to put a value on removing this eyesore from the community, but it will pay untold dividends in the coming months. Imagine, one of the prime entrances to the community—at Five Mile and Beck roads—hindered visually by such a monstrosity—not to mention the negative reputation that comes with it. Imagine, too, what will happen when it is gone. Northville Community Park will suddenly become more inviting. The retail uses will soon get a boost. The township will see additional tax revenue.

These are clearly all good things.

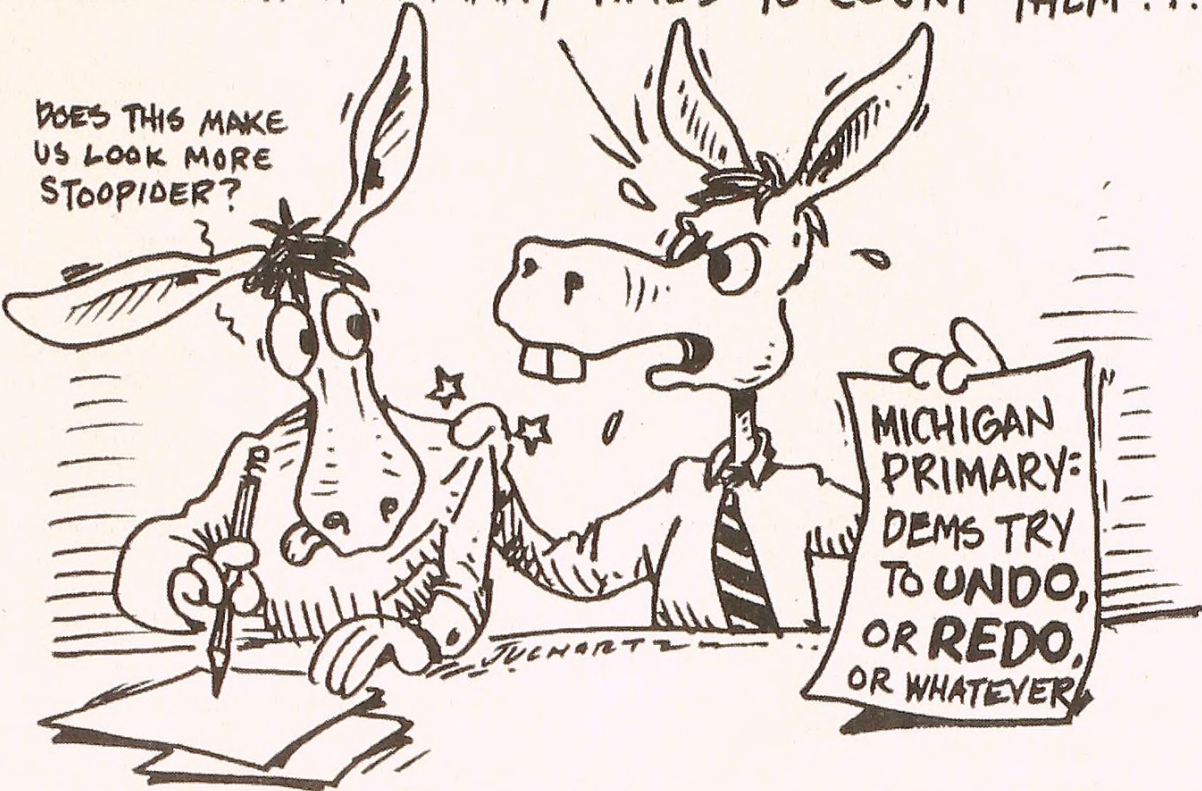
This is something that has been rumored for about a year now and that brings up a perplexing thing. When township officials grew concerned about the fate of the Northville Psychiatric Hospital site on Seven Mile Road, they acted proactively and came up with a concept for the land—for all the good that has done them so far. They haven't worked on the Robert Scott site yet, perhaps because they were uncertain of its future.

Now is the time to get going on a plan, though. The township should come up with something that will complement the park and the regional retail uses without detracting from the overall potential of that prime corner.

Once again, they should try to work with state officials to give developers an idea of what they would like to see there once the property is put up for sale—which probably won't be for at least a year.

Again, this is good news for the township, which has been a sort of institutional wasteland for much of its history. That's because, back in the day, it was a fairly rural sparsely populated area. It's not anymore, of course, and it's nice to see that the State of Michigan is allowing it to keep up with the times.

HOW CAN WE ACCUSE THE REPUBLICANS OF NOT COUNTING OUR VOTES, WHEN WE DON'T EVEN KNOW HOW MANY TIMES TO COUNT THEM?!!



Why did we elect them?

I try to spread optimism where I can, but it's no wonder some people get tired of Michigan.

A couple of things happened last week that—to me at least—don't amount to the doom and gloom you can find anywhere else, but they at least clarify some of the difficulties we face.

First of all, I got my tax assessment.

I suppose I am fortunate in that my home value only went down about \$1,800. That means less in taxes to pay out, which is a good thing for me but a bad thing for the City of Wayne, where the budget is so tight they need all the tax revenue they can get.

The second is the attempt from the Legislature to help out homeowners or, more to the point, the banter that goes back and forth as the House and the Senate—each controlled by a different political party—works on their particular plan.

The House has approved a plan that creates an 18-month window during which anyone who buys a house will inherit the seller's taxable value, and will not have their taxes uncapped for as long as they own the home. They sent out releases blasting the Senate for not acting on it yet, even though the House version was approved a year ago.

The Senate is working on a plan to eliminate the real estate transfer tax and to approve legislation to prevent property taxes from going up if property values fall—which is a possibility under Proposal A.

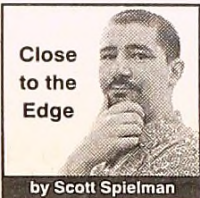
The Senate Republicans, of course, sent out a press release volley of their own accusing the House Democrats of stalling their bills in that chamber.

Will the people who are truly trying to help please stand up?

When I first heard about the moratorium on the so-called 'pop up tax' offered by the House of Representatives, I thought it was a good idea. I delved a little more into it, though, and saw its primary problem: it helps one set of homeowners more than another. People who purchased their houses within the past few years already pay more taxes than people who have lived in their homes for decades. Take two houses, side by side, one where the owner has lived there for 20 years and one where the owner has lived there for five. Assuming the price is the same, the 20-year-owner has a tremendous advantage under this plan and the new owner is left in the wind.

The Senate plan will impact homeowners equally and it has the advantage of not being a one-time fix—and we all know where one-time fixes have brought us.

More to the point, though, is the interaction going on between the two chambers. Is there some unwritten rule that you have to blame or cut down someone else in order to correct a problem?



Close to the Edge

by Scott Spielman

Don't let emotion cloud good judgment

It's difficult to think constructively when someone gets your back up.

At the Citizens for Northville town meeting Thursday night, where more than 300 residents showed up to voice their concerns regarding the possible development of the old Northville Psychiatric Hospital area, it was obvious that REIS has done little to

court the hearts and minds of the community it's intending to espouse.

There seemed to be a lot of animosity among residents, a lot of purposeful hostility directed at a development that was originally looked at as a potential boon for the township. This development was supposed to be a chance for new housing, expanded shopping and most importantly, a long-term boost for the struggling job market.

Unfortunately, REIS has done a lot to destroy this good sentiment.

In the five short months since they closed the deal on the property, REIS has asked for tax breaks they weren't entitled to, sued for losses on a plan with which they refused to comply, and may have attempted to annex the area to a city which doesn't want them, with the votes of residents who don't live there.

When it comes to PR campaigns, this isn't the most impressive I've seen.

One resident during the meeting Thursday suggested that the township should buy the property back from REIS for the \$3 million they've been trying to get it devalued to, and do the clean-up themselves.

Although I believe that this would be corporate comeuppance at it's finest, this is not a zero sum game by any means. If few want the dense urban landscape that REIS is proposing, even fewer want the hospital area as it is now.

Most residents still want this property developed, and this is an important point to remember, even when REIS has been so pointlessly antagonistic.

Perhaps, especially then.

Don't get me wrong. I'm not suggesting that the township relax its

ordinances any further. I firmly believe that every city should be allowed the freedom to dictate the tenure and tone of their community identity and not be forced, during difficult economic times, to sell off that right to the highest (or lowest) bidder.

However, I do believe that it's sometimes easy to let an idealistic squabble become a crusade.

At the end of the day, the township will be the one left holding the bag, either with a developer that seems bent on characterless urban overflow, or a vacant eyesore, too contaminated to be financially viable.

In marriage, as in life, compromise is usually more effective than all out war.

It isn't sexy, but sometimes it's all we've got.



And so it goes

by Jennifer Busch

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Destruction of theater lamented

To the editor;

I found it interesting to read your Op Ed on the old theater. It took me back in time to when the very first group of private

citizens took on the monstrous task of restoring that building after the Wayne Music Center went out of business.

I wish I had copies of the old Wayne Eagle to read once again how the city fathers applauded the

group's plans. There were many positive thoughts on how to make the theater a vital part of the community.

The council at that time made it

See Theater, page 6

Theater

FROM PAGE 5

known that they would help in any way they could to facilitate the project. Then the bomb dropped. The city council, under the then-mayor, Pat Norton, decided to acquire the State-Wayne Theater.

The mayor extolled the virtues and made promises of a fully restored theater providing all the activities one would desire in a theater: family-type movies, plays, musical shows, etc. Speaking of which...I remember going there and seeing live and in person Brenda Lee. (Google her name to find out who she is).

And what I felt as the biggest selling point, the mayor stated that we would be able to see the old family type movies—where one could take the family to enjoy a fine nights entertainment without fear of un-expected exposure to evil elements of Hollywood movies of the day.

When I first heard of the council's move to acquire the State-Wayne I thought, “They have just dealt the death knell to the other theater restoration group. Why in the world do we need two such theaters doing the same thing? This town will not be able to support two theaters/movie groups. Why in the world would the city council make such a move, when by their action, they negated the support they mentioned at first efforts?” Well, they did and the plan moved on. Since that time things have happened...some not so good.

Not surprising, the “old family type films” showing at the State Wayne have all disappeared, although an extensive library of them is available. I suppose not many people attended these previews.

Movies being shown became so bad management didn't put up the films ratings until I reminded the city council that family type films are not PG-13 and R rated. I was told by someone at city hall not in the know, that none of the local theaters were posting film

ratings... Ah Contraire, my friend...they do post them. When I pointed that out, the ratings started to appear on the marquee, but rarely a G rated film was to be seen. PG movies are few and far between. Perhaps it is because Hollywood refuses to produce profitable G rated movies and few PG movies. Why the “F” word has to appear in PG movies I'll never know, but that another story

The theater will now be torn down. A vital part of Wayne's history will be erased with a bulldozer. I remember going there and seeing in person Lash LaRue, a cowboy hero of my day. He twirled his lasso around, cracked the whip he was famous for and fired his pistols into the air. (We swore to each other that we could see the bullet holes in the ceiling.) And I can still smell the gunpowder (Google his name too).

You can destroy the building, but the memories remain.

I said all that to say this: It is my feeling that the then city council never wanted nor thought the Shafer-Wayne theater would be restored, least of all by a band of citizens who were struggling to turn a sow's ear into a silk purse. Without the city's support—read that: DDA funds—the theater would meet the wrecking ball at some point in the future. It just took this long for it to happen. Interestingly enough the deal securing the State Wayne Theater has a little publicized or known clause in the agreement. The city is allowed to show second run movies only. If ever the city shows a first run movie, the ownership of the theater reverts back to the Shafer family.

What I would like to see happen before the wrecking ball takes her down—but legal problems would no doubt prohibit it—one last peek at the innards of that fine building. A trip through the orchestra pit, the dressing rooms in the basement where stars of the 30s and 40s prepared for a performance. Allow me and my bad knees one last climb up the stairs to the balcony where young lovers held hands and made out, no doubt paying little attention to the movie on

the screen. There is a railing from which be-deviled youngsters poured pop or threw popcorn from the balcony down onto unsuspecting people below. And lastly, one last look for the bullet holes in the ceiling from the pistol shots in Lash

LaRue's one and only appearance in Wayne.
Such a deal I have for you.

Ed McMurray,
Wayne

Watch for daily news updates on our website
www.journalgroup.com

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF VAN BUREN

REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES

MARCH 4, 2008

Supervisor King called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. in the Board Room. Present: Supervisor King, Clerk Payne, Treasurer Budd, Trustee Clair, Trustee Hart, Trustee Jahr and Trustee Rochowiak. Absent and excused: None. Others in attendance: Planning and Economic Development Director Kelley, Parks and Recreation Director Ross, DPW Director Knepper, IT Director Rankin, Parks Manager Mulkey, Executive Assistant Ireland, Secretary Cline and an audience of eight (8).

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Payne moved, Jahr seconded to approve the agenda as presented. Carried.

PUBLIC HEARING: None.

MINUTES: Rochowiak moved, Budd seconded to approve the Work Study Session Minutes of February 4, 2008 as presented. Carried.

Hart moved, Clair seconded to approve the Closed Session Minutes of February 4, 2008 as presented. Carried.

Budd moved, Hart seconded to approve the Regular Board Meeting Minutes of February 5, 2008 as presented. Carried.

Clair moved, Jahr seconded to approve the Special Board Meeting Minutes of February 8, 2008 as presented. Carried.

Payne moved, Rochowiak seconded to approve the Closed Session Minutes of February 8, 2008 as presented. Carried.

CORRESPONDENCE: Supervisor King read the State of the Township into the record and stated following the Board Meeting the “State of the Township” video will be aired.

On Saturday, March 15th a benefit Irish Corn Beef Dinner will be held for the Wayne County Fair Association at the Wayne County Fair Grounds located at 10871 Quirk Road.

The 2008 HUG (Help Unity Grow) will be held on April 19th at 8:00 a.m. at Belleville High School.

Supervisor King stated the Down River Sewer System has gone 12 months without any violations.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None.

NEW BUSINESS: Payne moved, Hart seconded to approve the reappointments of Joy Ann Ferris, Ken Askew, Beverly Jenkins, Loretta Speaks, Harold Gant and Keith Johnston to the Recreation Committee with terms to expire February 28, 2009. Carried.

Hart moved, Budd seconded to approve permit application by Qwest Communications Corporation to install telecommunications infrastructure in the westerly portion of the Haggerty Road public right of way, from a point at the township's northerly most corporation limit on Haggerty Road then south along Haggerty and terminating just north of Ricardo Drive then west under Haggerty Road into 9000 Haggerty Road. Carried. Budd moved, Jahr seconded to approve the amended Planning Commission Rules and Procedures. Carried.

Jahr moved, Clair seconded to adopt Resolution 2008-07 the E-Mail Retention Policy. Carried.

Payne moved, Hart seconded to approve the reappointments of Mike Suliman and Victor DeLibera to the Downtown Development Authority with terms to expire March 3, 2012. Carried.

Budd moved, Hart seconded to approve emergency repairs to the outlet of Willow Run Creek in to Belleville Lake. Funding to come from the Capital Improvement Fund Balance and moved to a Capital Improvement line item, Van Buren Park, road repair. Carried.

Payne moved, Rochowiak seconded to approve the bid package for the Riggs Heritage Park Phase I construction located at 43275 East Huron River Drive pending written recommendation of the bid documents from Attorney McCauley. Carried.

VOUCHER LIST: Clair moved, Hart seconded to approve the March 4, 2008 voucher list as presented. Carried.

REPORTS: None.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: The Recreation Department announced the following events: Open registration has begun for summer day camp. Four camps will be held, Tot Camp, Day Camp, Tween Camp and Club Teen. The annual Marshmallow Drop will be held on Saturday, March 15th at 10:00 a.m. The rainout date is Sunday, April 16th. In addition, a pancake breakfast will be held prior to the Marshmallow drop in the Van Buren Township Gymnasium at 8:00 a.m. to 9:20 a.m. For further information on classes and events contact the Recreation Department at 734.699.8921.

AUDIENCE (Non-Agenda Items): A resident gave an account of the progression of a garage built next to his house on Harmony Lane. He talked about the current litigation and inquired about a complaint he filed with the Van Buren Police Department regarding this matter and when would he receive a written report. Director Champagne inquired if he had requested a written report and the resident had not. Director Champagne will check on the status of the case. Supervisor King stated she had no comments as this is pending litigation.

A resident inquired about assessed and taxable values in Van Buren Township. Assessment Coordinator Ireland stated the equalization process will not be completed by the Wayne County until May and she would explain this process in further detail to him. The resident further commented on the previous lawsuit regarding the garage and how much longer it will continue. Supervisor King stated this case is in the Court of Appeals and the Township is awaiting the Court of Appeals decision.

A second resident commented on the garage case on Harmony Lane and the cost to the township.

DPW Director Knepper gave an update on the Detroit Water and Sewerage Department (DWSD) large water main project in Van Buren Township, specifically along Ecorse Road from Michigan Avenue to Beck Road, south on Beck Road to Tyler Road, and eventually the entire length of Tyler Road to Hannan Road. The project is to install a new 42-inch water transmission main that will supplement the current water transmission main, noting when this project is complete a more reliable water supply will be realized by the residents of Van Buren Township. As more information becomes available it will be posted on the township website and cable channel.

CLOSED SESSION: None.

ADJOURNMENT: Hart moved, Budd seconded to adjourn at 9:33 p.m. Carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Joannie D. Payne, CMC
Township Clerk

Cindy C. King
Supervisor

Publish: March 13, 2008

CITY OF ROMULUS

NOXIOUS WEED NOTICE TO THE

PROPERTY OWNERS IN THE

CITY OF ROMULUS

In accordance with P.A. 359 of 1941, as amended and Chapter 19, Article 3, of the Romulus Code of Ordinances it shall be the duty of all owners of lands on which noxious weeds are found growing, to destroy the same before they reach a seed bearing stage and to prevent such weeds from becoming a detriment to public health.

If any such owner, agent or occupant of such land shall refuse to destroy such noxious weeds or cause them to be destroyed, it shall be the duty of the Noxious Weed Commissioner to enter upon such land and destroy such noxious weeds.

Nothing in this notice shall apply to weeds in fields devoted to growing any small grain crop such as wheat, oats, barley or rye.

All weeds not cut by May 1, 2008 will be cut by the City and the owner of the property will be charged with the cost. Subsequent violations will result in additional cuttings and will be done as often as necessary when vegetation reaches 12 inches in height and/or seed bearing stage.

Any expense incurred in such destruction shall be paid by the owner or owners of such land, and the city shall have a lien against such land for such expense. Any owner who shall refuse to destroy such noxious weeds shall also be subject to a fine of not more than \$100.00 per cutting in the discretion of the court.

All refuse and debris on the given owners property will be removed by the City at the owners' expense.

Publish: March 13, 2008
March 20, 2008

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF VAN BUREN

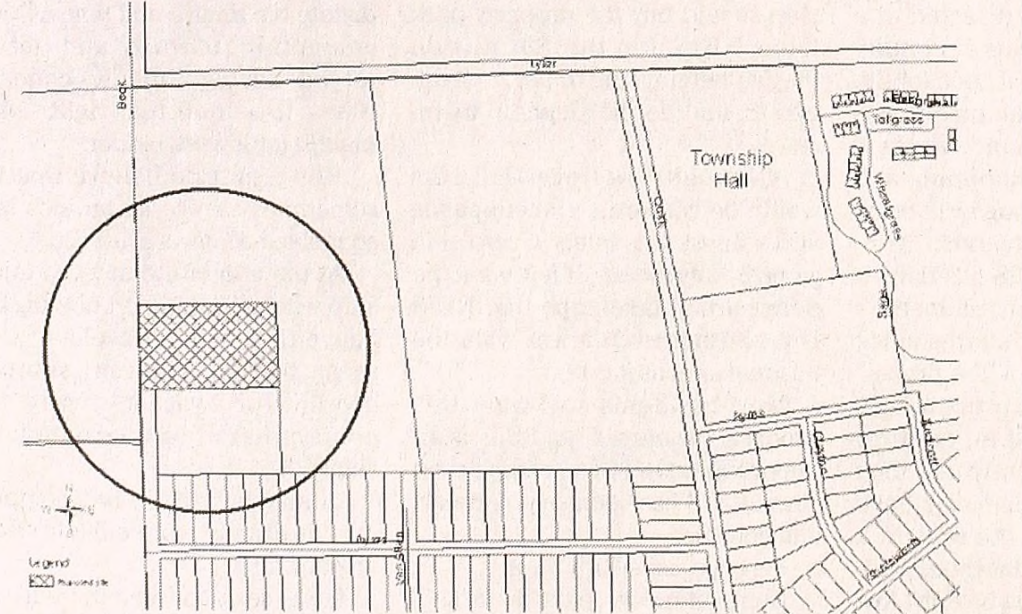
BOARD OF TRUSTEES

PUBLIC HEARING

The Charter Township of Van Buren Board of Trustees will hold a public hearing on Tuesday, April 1, 2008 at 7:30 p.m., in the Board of Trustees Room, 46425 Tyler Road, Charter Township of Van Buren, Wayne County, Michigan.

The Public Hearing relates to the following described property:

This is a portion of parcel with the tax ID number V125-83-062-99-0003-700. This property is located on the east side of Beck Road between Tyler and Ayres Roads. A map indicating the location of the subject site is included below:



The applicant is requesting special use approval. Special use approval is required for outside storage of contracting equipment and supplies per Section 15.03 (d) of the Zoning Ordinance. Written comments will be accepted at the Department of Developmental Services until 5:00p.m., the hearing date.

In the spirit of compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, individuals with a disability should feel free to contact the Department of Developmental Services at least seventy-two (72) hours in advance of the meeting, if requesting accommodations.

Posted: March 13, 2008
Publish: March 13, 2008

Expo at college is success

Andrea King
Editor

Educators from both the Van Buren Public Schools and the Wayne County Community College District (WCCCD) western campus called the recent Parent Involvement Committee Expo a success.

The expo, which took place last Saturday, received an overwhelming response of parents who attended, according to Paul Henning, spokesperson for the school district.

“The room was filled and the event seems to be gaining attendance every year,” he said. “I think the word of mouth is getting out there and it’s certainly more people who attended than last year’s event.”

The third annual parent expo included speakers, contests and more for parents, teachers and students. It offered free resources, breakout sessions for seniors, health screenings and keynote speakers Lucy French and Sara Grivas.

“Sara (Grivas) had a lot of statistics and a different thrust to the effects that media has on this generation of students,” said Henning. “The parent expo encourages parents to be involved and some of the images that kids are being exposed to would be less influential if the parents were involved and around. I found that refreshing to hear.”

“It was a good discussion on how the media is affecting students and their thought process in the schools, whether it’s indirect or not and how that affects them in the classroom,” said Patrick McNally, president of the WCCCD western campus. “It’s an alert to parents as to think of today’s culture and what we’re used to and how we’re adapting to those changes.”

Other topics included: the mind-body connection, college life, making family a priority, sparking the learning desire, when the empty nest gets full again, communication styles, stress relievers and, topics on today’s youth and culture.

In the future, McNally said he would like to see more ways of stressing education to parents.

“I read a statistic recently that showed only about 27 percent of parents thought college was important,” he said. “We need to actively work on educating the community on how the times are changing; that starts in high school.

“It was a great event, very well attended and a fantastic opportunity to educate the community on issues in the schools,” McNally added. “It’s an honor to partner with the Van Buren Public Schools. We would love to continue this partnership and look forward to next year’s event.”

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF VAN BUREN NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING VAN BUREN TOWNSHIP HALL 46425 TYLER ROAD

The Charter Township of Van Buren Board of Trustees will hold a Public Hearing in conjunction with the Regular Board meeting on Tuesday, March 18, 2008 at 7:30 p.m. in the Board Room at Township Hall, 46425 Tyler Road, Van Buren Township, MI 48111 to consider establishing Industrial Development District Number 21 and to consider the request for an Industrial Facilities Exemption Certificate pursuant to Act 198, Michigan Public Acts of 1974, as amended for Ricardo, Inc., 9059 Samuel Barton Drive, Van Buren Township, Wayne County, Michigan. Following is the described parcel:

Part of V125-83-047-99-0002-701 described as:

12 S1, S2A1B2B1, X1A2B X1B PT OF W 1/2 OF SW 1/4 OF SEC 12 T3S R8E BEG N 02D 23M 55S W 640.19 FT AND N 89D 08M 49S E 942.89 FT FROM SW COR OF SEC 12 - - TH N 00D 11M 02S E 318.96 FT - TH N 89D 08M 29S E 551.39 FT - TH 265.64 FT ALONG A CURVE TO LT RAD 4039.72 FT CHD BRG S 19D 19M 34S E 265.49 FT - TH S 89D 08M 49S W 121.61 FT - TH S 00D 11M 02S E 40.00 FT - TH S 89D 08M 49S W 75.90 FT - TH S 01D 52M 46S E 26.99 FT - TH S 89D 08M 49S W 282.00 FT - TH 118.23 FT ALONG A CURVE TO LT RAD 75.00 FT CHD BRG N 80D 59M 50S W 106.36 FT - TH 61.00 FT ALONG A CURVE TO RT RAD 99.00 FT CHD BRG S 71D 29M 43S W 60.04 FT - TH S 89D 08M 49S W 0.25 FT TO POB. 4.12 AC - - K - 4.12

Written comments may be forwarded to the Township Clerk, 46425 Tyler Road, Van Buren Township, MI 48111. The exact legal descriptions are available for public review at the township offices during regular business hours.

Joannie D. Payne, CMC
Charter Township of Van Buren

Publish: March 6, 2008
March 13, 2008

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE ROMULUS CITY COUNCIL HELD FEBRUARY 25, 2008 IN THE ROMULUS CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBER 11111 S. WAYNE ROAD, ROMULUS, MICHIGAN 48174.

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by Mayor Pro Tem Randolph Gear.
Present: Ellen Craig-Bragg, LeRoy Burcroff, Harry Crout, Randolph Gear, William Wadsworth.
Excused: John Barden, William Crova.
Administrative Officials in Attendance:
Alan Lambert, Mayor
Linda R. Choate, Clerk
Pamela Morrison/Kersey, Treasurer

1. Motion by Burcroff, supported by Bragg to approve the agenda as presented.

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes -Bragg, Burcroff, Crout, Gear, Wadsworth.
Nays - None.
Motion Carried Unanimously.

08-042

2. Motion by Wadsworth, supported by Burcroff to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of the Romulus City Council held February 11, 2008.

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes -Bragg, Burcroff, Crout, Gear, Wadsworth.
Nays - None.
Motion Carried Unanimously.

08-043

- 4A. Motion by Crout, supported Wadsworth to adopt a memorial resolution for the family of Rodney T. Pennington.

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes - Bragg, Burcroff, Crout, Gear, Wadsworth.
Nays - None.
Motion Carried Unanimously.

08-044

- 4B. Motion by Crout, supported by Bragg to adopt a memorial resolution for the family of Hubert G.Gilbert.

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes - Bragg, Burcroff, Crout, Gear, Wadsworth.
Nays - None.
Motion Carried Unanimously.

4. Motion by Burcroff, supported by Wadsworth to accept the Chairpersons Report.

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes - Bragg, Burcroff, Crout, Gear, Wadsworth.
Nays - None.
Motion Carried Unanimously.

08-045

- 5A. Motion by Wadsworth, supported by Crout to concur with the recommendation of Timothy Keyes, Economic Development Director and adopt the below resolution in opposition of the Detroit Metropolitan Wayne County Airport Authority (WCAA) Master Plan:

A RESOLUTION of the City of Romulus, Michigan opposing the Detroit Metropolitan Wayne County Airport Authority (WCAA) Master Plan

WHEREAS, the city supports reasonable expansion of the airport and believes a strong airport is good for the City and the region. We encourage the consideration of safe and efficient alternatives within the current airport boundaries to provide a balance between the demands of meeting future air traffic demands as projected by the WCAA and the quality of life for the surrounding residents. These factors have been incorporated into the City of Romulus Master Plan; and

WHEREAS, on January 10, 2008 the staff of the Wayne County Airport Authority and their consultants Jacobsen Daniels Associates, during the sixth (e) meeting of the Technical Advisory Committee, distributed the “Preferred Development Plan” for the airport master plan which includes the installation of a 5th parallel runway, off site development to the north of Interstate 94 and future development to the south into Huron Township; and

WHEREAS, the preferred development plan being submitted for approval by the WCAA is based solely upon airport operations and fails to take into consideration the direct social and economic impacts outside the airport boundary; and

WHEREAS, the plan as proposed will displace and or eliminate approximately 3,500 citizens or 16% of the City’s population; and

WHEREAS, the plan as proposed will eliminate 815 residential properties, 352 multiple family units, 48 improved commercial and industrial properties with an assessed value of over 114 million dollars; and

WHEREAS, the plan as proposed eliminates over 1,700 acres of land area in the City equating to an approximate loss of 7.3% of the City land area, the airport would then encumber over 13 square miles within the City limits; and

WHEREAS, no consideration was given to the severe impacts on non-airport facilities such as schools, roads, and community infrastructure thereby, limiting the ability of the City to efficiently provide public safety and utility services through the City and will also result in the closure of Merriman Park, Merriman school and possibly Hale Creek school; and

WHEREAS, there are other alternatives and operational efficiency’s that can be addressed to increase capacity without the impact to the areas beyond the current airport boundaries; and

WHEREAS, the preferred development plan, if approved by the WCAA, will be submitted for acceptance by the Federal Aviation Administration; and

WHEREAS, the obvious impacts of the Airport Authority’s master plan are in direct conflict with the best interests of the City of Romulus and its duly adopted master plan

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED the Romulus City Council opposes the preferred development plan presented at the 6th Technical Advisory Committee Meeting and urges its rejection by the Wayne County Airport Authority and the Federal Aviation Administration.

Motion By: Wadsworth
Supported By: Crout
Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes - Bragg, Burcroff, Crout, Gear, Wadsworth.
Nays - None
Motion Carried Unanimously

08-046

- 5B. Motion by Burcroff, supported by Crout to designate May 15 - May 18, 2008, as City of Romulus Annual Yard Sale Weekend with May 29, - June 1, 2008 as rainout dates, and issue no fee permits to interested residents.

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes - Bragg, Burcroff, Crout, Gear, Wadsworth
Nays - None.
Motion Carried Unanimously.

08-047

- 5C. Motion by Bragg, supported by Burcroff to adopt the resolution in response to the new Michigan Department of Environmental Quality Storm Water Permit Regulations. Complete Resolution on file in the Clerks’ office.

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes - Bragg, Burcroff, Crout, Gear, Wadsworth.
Nays - None.
Motion Carried Unanimously.

08-048

- 5D. Motion by Wadsworth, supported by Crout to authorize the emergency purchase of pavement TR from Cera Tech in the amount of \$2,500 for an emergency repair of potholes on Goddard Road at 5 Points.

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes -Bragg, Burcroff, Crout, Gear, Wadsworth.
Nays - None.
Motion Carried Unanimously.

- 6A1. No Action Taken.

08-049

- 6A2. Motion by Burcroff, supported by Bragg to introduce an amendment to the Romulus Code of Ordinance Chapter 3, Article IV, the City of Romulus’ Amusements and Entertainments Ordinance to provide more clearly defined restrictions on the scope of permissible sexuallyexplicit dancing and entertaining licensed under Section 3-101 and 3-116.

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes -Bragg, Burcroff, Crout, Gear, Wadsworth.
Nays - None.
Motion Carried Unanimously.

08-050

- 6A3. Motion by Bragg, supported by Wadsworth to schedule a study session for March 3, 2008 at 7:00 p.m., to be held in the City of Romulus Council Chambers, located at 11111 Wayne Road, Romulus, Michigan 48174, for the purpose of discussing the 2008 Tax Assessments.

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes -Bragg, Burcroff, Crout, Gear, Wadsworth.
Nays - None.
Motion Carried Unanimously.

08-051

- 9A. Motion by Burcroff, supported by Crout to grant a no-fee permit to Community United Methodist Church for their Church Picnic, to be held on July 20, 2008 in the Elmer Johnson Park.

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes - Bragg, Burcroff, Crout, Gear, Wadsworth.
Nays - None.
Motion Carried Unanimously.

08-052

11. Motion by Bragg, supported by Crout to authorize the Treasurer of the City of Romulus to disburse funds as listed in Warrant 08-04 in the amount of Eight Hundred, Six Thousand, Three Hundred One Dollar and Sixty-One Cents (\$306,301.61).

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes -Bragg, Burcroff, Crout, Gear, Wadsworth.
Nays - None.
Motion Carried Unanimously.

12. Motion by Wadsworth, supported by Bragg to adjourn the regular meeting of the Romulus City Council.

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes -Bragg, Burcroff, Crout, Gear, Wadsworth.
Nays - None.
Motion Carried Unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda R. Choate, Clerk
City of Romulus, Michigan

I, Linda R. Choate, Clerk for the City of Romulus, Michigan do hereby certify the foregoing to be a true copy of the minutes of the regular meeting of the Romulus City Council held on February 25, 2008.

Linda R. Choate, Clerk
City of Romulus, Michigan

Publish: March 13, 2008

SPORTS

Romulus Eagles win regional title

Jeff Novak
Staff Writer

Is there a state championship in the near future for Romulus?

The powerhouse team took another big step toward that ultimate goal when the Eagles earned the regional crown by beating Saline and Taylor Truman last week.

That marked only the third time in the school's history that the Eagles have taken such a triumphant step forward. The last one was also under Coach Nate Oats' guidance.

"This is good for us," Oats said. "The kids set goals at the beginning of the year and are set on accomplishing them. We're now one step closer to the final goal."

Oats and company last won the region with a come-from-behind victory against Ypsilanti in 2005. That win spurred the Eagles on to the state finals against Holt—a game they eventually lost. The only other regional win was in 1986 under Al Wilkerson. The Eagles won the state championship that year.

To win its third regional title Romulus had to get by Taylor Truman on Thursday.

The Eagles did so, but not with the effortless grace that propelled them through the district championship.

The final was a lackluster 49-36 victory. "It was very ugly," Oats said. "We just couldn't make any shots. For some reason we never got into our rhythm."

Romulus was averaging 66 points a game up until that point.

The Eagles came out of the gates with a 6-0 lead but Truman went on a 12-1 run to finish out the first quarter. Romulus was back in it with their own run in the second frame and made it out of the first half with a 23-17 advantage.

That was enough to keep Truman at bay and pull out the victory.

"This was our third time playing them so they were pretty used to us," Oats said. "They played us zone because they knew they couldn't guard us man-to-man. We just couldn't score."

Senior and Iowa State-bound Dominique Buckley led the team with 16. Senior forward Devin Pankey added 10.

See **Eagles**, page 9



The Romulus basketball team shows off its regional championship trophy last week after beating Taylor Truman, 49-36, on Thursday. Photo submitted by James McGlynn

Ignition earns playoff spot

Jeff Novak
Staff Writer

To put it simple, the Ignition is on fire.

With six games still left to play, the Detroit Ignition has already secured a spot in the postseason.

The organization won its last five games to improve to 17-7 for the regular season. The most recent notches in their belt were courtesy of the Orlando Sharks and the Chicago Storm.

The Ignition defeated the expansion Orlando Sharks (3-22), 13-6, at Amway Arena on Friday to secure the playoff berth and a share of first place in the MISL with the Milwaukee Wave (17-7).

There was no stopping Detroit as the powerhouse scored nine unanswered points to start.

Jonathan Greenfield got things started for the club with a two-point tally. Vahid Assadpour put in an unassisted two-point shot to give Detroit a 4-0 lead at the half. Birmingham native Ryan Mack continued the club's assault in the third quarter, adding two more points at 2:06. At 6:59, midfielder Kyt Selaidopoulos buried a three-pointer to give Detroit the insurmountable 9-0 lead.

Ignition rookie Leo Gibson scored his first MISL goal off an assist from captain Droe Callahan in the second half. Midfielder Ze Roberto netted a two-point shot to finish the scoring for Detroit with an assist from Selaidopoulos.

Detroit defeated the visiting Chicago Storm (14-11), 15-7, in front of a sell-out crowd at Compuware Arena on Sunday.

Reigning MISL MVP Jamar Beasley ignited Compuware Arena when he scored his 300th MISL point with a two-point goal just 15 seconds into the match. Forward Hewerton Moreira netted a two-point tally for Detroit at 1:02 of the second quarter to put the club up 4-0 at the half and again just 27 seconds into the fourth for a two-goal night.

Callahan increased Detroit's lead with an unassisted two-point score in the third. Mack added a two-pointer for the Ignition at 7:48 of the third and added his second of the night to increase the lead to 13-4 in the fourth. Worth Sampson buried two points to finish the scoring off for the Ignition.

Detroit hosts the expansion Orlando Sharks at 7:35 pm on Friday for the club's annual Green Jersey night.



Whaler goalie Jeremy Smith makes one of his many saves this season. Smith, recently selected by the NHL Nashville Predators in the second round of the entry draft, is in his second full season with the Whalers posted a 2.86 goals against average, a .921 save percentage and three shutouts in 40 games. Photo by Walt Dmoch

Higher goals Whaler goalie signs with Nashville Predators

Jeff Novak
Staff Writer

Hockey players at every level have goals—either they want to score them or achieve them.

Plymouth Whaler goaltender Jeremy Smith doesn't let too many goals get by him and that's probably why the David Poile, the president of hockey operations and general manager of the Nashville Predators, didn't want the Brownstown, MI native to get by them.

Poile signed Smith to an entry-level contract last week.

Smith, who turns 19 next month, was selected by the Predators in the second round (54th overall) of the 2007 National Hockey League Entry Draft. Smith was originally selected by Plymouth in the 4th round (64th overall) of the 2005 Ontario Hockey League Draft.

"We're excited for Jeremy," said Mike Vellucci, president and general manager of the Whalers. "He's worked very hard to develop into one of the best goaltenders in the Ontario Hockey League."

Smith's stats speak for themselves.

In his second full season with the Whalers, Smith currently has a 2.86 goals against average, a .921 save percentage, and three shutouts in 40 games.

Last season, Smith shared time

between the posts with Michal Neuvirth as the Whalers won the Dave Pinkney Trophy—recording the lowest team goals against average—en route to winning the OHL Championship.

Smith also won USA Hockey's Dave Peterson Award as the Top Junior Goaltender in the United States and made the OHL's All-Academic Team. He finished the season as the number-one rated North American goaltender by Central Scouting Services.

This season, Smith played for the United States at the World Junior Championships in the Czech Republic during the Christmas Holidays. He represented the OHL Western Conference in the OHL All-Star Classic in Sault Ste. Marie.

Plymouth lost a lot of talent from last year's championship team but is keeping playoff hopes alive this year in part due to the Smith's solid play in the pipes. The Whalers are 33-24-2-3—fifth seed in the Western Conference. They wrap up regular season play this week.

Plymouth is at Sault Ste. Marie at 7:30 pm on Friday. The Whalers last home game of the regular season is scheduled for 7:05 pm on Saturday before finishing the season at Saginaw at 4 p.m. on Sunday.

Plymouth beats Otters, 3-2
The Plymouth Whalers' two

first-period goals were enough to hold off host Erie on Saturday in a 3-2 victory.

Michal Jordan, from Andrew Fournier, put the Whalers on the board first with his sixth goal of the season. Former Erie Otter, Patrick Lee, followed with the Whalers' second goal at the 18:37 mark of the first. It was his 12th of the year. Leo Jenner and A.J. Jenks assisted on the play.

Erie's Sean Jones got things going for the Otters with a goal early in the second to cut Plymouth's lead in half.

Lee scored his second of the game, and would be considered the game winner, 14 minutes later. Chris Terry and Vern Cooper notched the assists.

Josh Kidd scored with about seven minutes left in the third for Erie.

Plymouth goalie Matt Hackett made 38 saves in the outing.

Storm blows over Plymouth

The Whalers fell, 4-2, to host Guelph on Friday.

Lee and Terry scored Plymouth's two goals in the first period and had a 2-1 lead at the end of one.

After that they were hit by a heavy storm as Guelph scored three unanswered goals—two in the second and one in the third—for the victory.



New heights

Canton center Baylee Hollowell (53) recently signed her letter of intent to play basketball at Siena Heights University in Adrian, MI. The 6-foot-1 senior center was a force in the paint for the Lady Chiefs, fighting and battling for rebounds and put-backs, and should be a nice addition to the Saints next winter. "Baylee had a nice career at Canton and because of her work ethic and determination I think she will have a great career at Siena," said Canton Coach Brian Samulski. Photo by Ken Garner

Area hoopsters make WLAA All-conference

Jeff Novak
Staff Writer

With the basketball season coming to a close this week it is time to announce the players that were selected to the Western Lakes Activities Association's All-Conference and All-Division teams.

The 12 high schools of the Western Lakes Activities Association (WLAA) recently chose their final 2007-08 All-Star Boys' Basketball teams and below are Journal Area stand-outs from Northville, Wayne, Salem, John Glenn, Canton and Plymouth.

Special attention should be given to Wayne's Robert Woodson who made the All-West Division team and is the only junior on the list. He was elected a co-captain by his teammates and helped the Zebras win a conference title this year.

Kudos to all of the players

named.

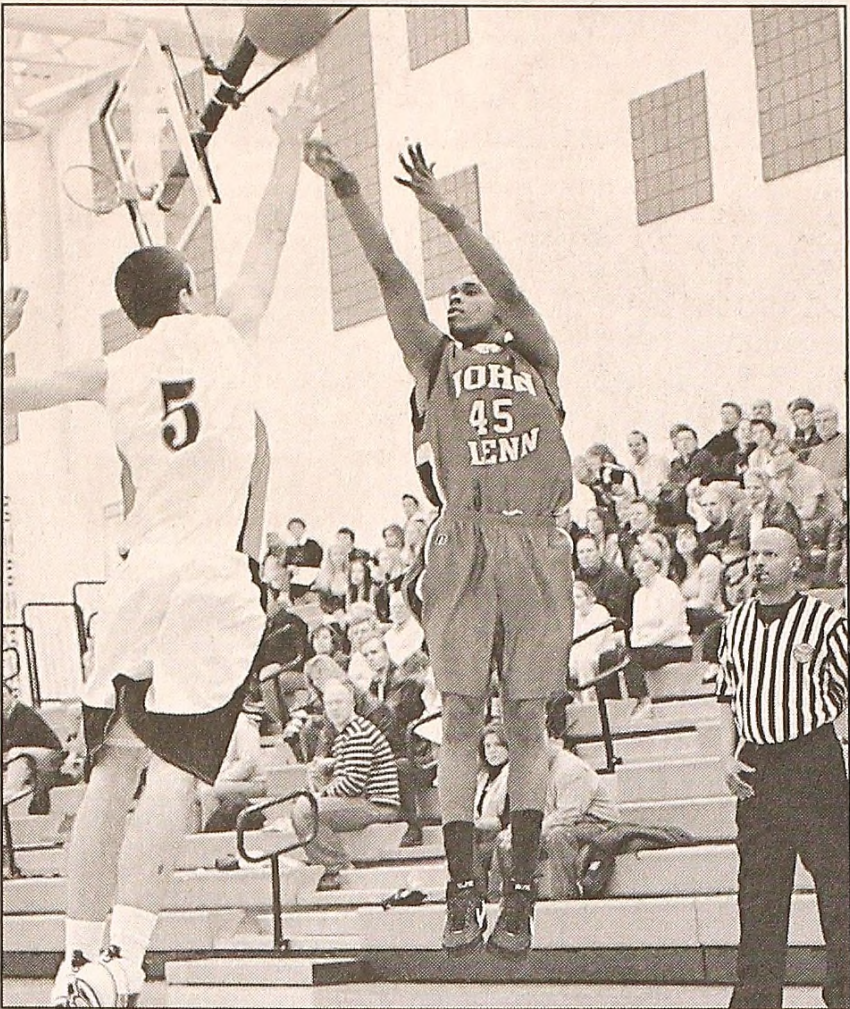
WLAA All -Conference Team:
Dan Kirkpatrick, Northville; Mike Lee, Wayne; Grant Stone, Salem; and Earl Hardison, John Glenn

WLAA All-West Division Team:
Greg Hasse, Northville; John Hill, Wayne; Robert Woodson (junior) Wayne; Neil Sharma, Canton; Brandon Roberts, Plymouth; and Navraj Sandhu, Plymouth.

WLAA All-Lakes Division Team:
Ross Davis, Salem; Stefan Marken, John Glenn; and Keshawn Martin, John Glenn.

WLAA Honorable Mention:
Steve Anderson, Northville; David Burke, Northville; Mike Rogers, Northville; and Martin Trautmanis, Northville.

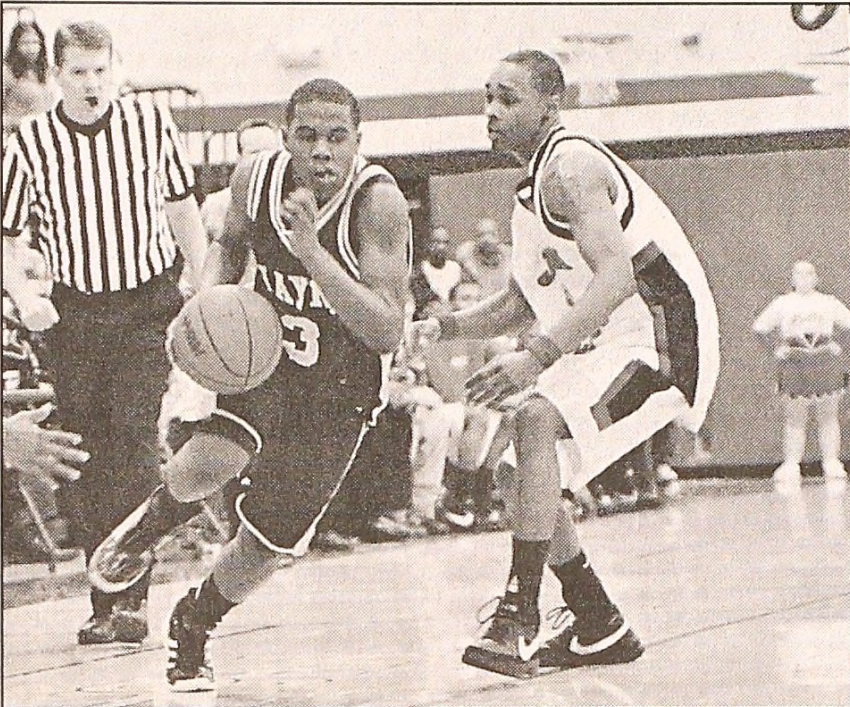
**All players are seniors except for where noted.*



Glenn's Earl Hardison (45) was selected to the WLAA All-Conference team.



Northville senior Dan Kirkpatrick, (5) was a force for the Mustangs this season and made the All-Conference team.



Wayne's Robert Woodson (3) was the only junior to make it on an all-star list this year. He was instrumental in leading the offense and the team to a conference championship.

Eagles

FROM PAGE 8

The repellant-ready Eagles swatted the Saline Hornets, 65-24, in the regional semifinal last Tuesday.

The sluggish Hornets were no match for Romulus' guards. The Eagles held a 42-9 half time lead and the rest was history.

"Our guards were too quick and applied too much pressure," Oats said. "I don't think they (Saline) were used to that."

Pankey and Buckley each scored 13 points in the rout. Junior guard Filmore Bouldes scored nine and senior forward Will Clyburn had eight rebounds.

By the time this is printed Oats and crew could be on their way to the Breslin Center at Michigan State University in East Lansing on Friday vying for a second chance at the state championship.

The Eagles faced off against Orchard Lake St. Mary's on Tuesday at Highland-Milford in the quarterfinal round but the results were unavailable at press time.

The winner of that contest heads to the big stage on Friday and faces the winner of the Detroit Pershing-Detroit Finney game (also on Tuesday in Ferndale) in the semifinal. That game is scheduled for 2:50 pm.

The state championship for Class A—most likely against Saginaw—is scheduled for 4 p.m. on Saturday at the Breslin Center.

Oats hopes the Truman game is the one that gears his team up for the rest of the journey.

"That was our worst game of the playoffs but at this point I will take a win however we can get one," he said of the Truman showdown. "I think there is always that one win that you kind of struggle through and battle through and I hope that was it."

CLASSIFIED

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- 109. Income Property

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- 112. Commercial Lease
- 113. Real Estate Wanted
- 114. Auto Accessories
- 115. Autos for Sale
- 116. Antique & Classic Cars
- 117. Trucks & Vans for Sale
- 118. Freebies
- 119. Auto Repairs
- 120. Motorcycles
- 121. Autos Wanted

1. Obituaries



KENNEDY, Ida Vivian, age 83, died February 23, 2008. She was born November 23, 1924. On Saturday morning, February 23, 2008, while in Kindred Hospital, God in His infinite wisdom took Ida home to be with Him. Ida's parents, Dan and Emily, and her sisters, Leah, Earline, Segunia and Marion preceded her in death. Ida (known to her nieces and nephews as "Aunt Red" and/or "Aunt Vivian") leaves to cherish her memory nephews, Carter Gross (Mary), Marion smith, Dan smith and Antonio Daniels; nieces, Betty Solomon Williams, Regina Smith, Dr. Emily Smith and Tracey Daniels; a very special great niece, Vanita Kennedy and a host of cousins, great nieces and nephews, other relatives and friends. Services were held at Parks Memorial A.M.E. Church with Rev. William Phillips officiating. Interment was at Detroit Memorial Park-West, Redford, MI. Final arrangements were entrusted to Penn Funeral Home, Inkster, MI.



MEDLEY, Keith Lamont, age 39, died February 22, 2008. He was born February 1, 1969. He leaves to cherish his memory, his daughter Janay Medley; special friend LaWanda Drayton; sisters, Eleanor Davis and Diana Medley; brothers, Steven and Robert; sisters-in-law, Grace Medley Johnson, Cheryl Medley and Monique Medley; brother-in-law, Rebrick Copeland and a host of loving aunts, uncles, cousins, nieces, nephews and many dear friends. Services were held at Penn Funeral Home with Leonard Mosley officiating. Interment was at United Memorial Gardens, Plymouth, MI. Final arrangements were entrusted to Penn Funeral Home, Inkster, MI.



OWENS, Maurice Lovell, age 38, died February 24, 2008. He was born December 26, 1969. Maurice leaves to cherish his memories two daughters, Ginger and Jasmine Owens of MI; son

Anthony Antolak of Dearborn, MI; grandson, Jaden Antolak or Dearborn, MI; grandfather, Sid Lovell Dean and great grandfather I.B. Williams, both of Jonesboro, AR; brothers, Kenneth Owens, Sr. of Inkster, MI, Robert (Gayla) Sr. of Atlanta, GA, Derrick Owens and Fallon (Shanna) Butler of Inkster, MI; aunts, Cozetta (Lloyd Henry) Clayborn of Inkster, MI, Lola Bailey, Mary Robinson, Dr. Patricia Guy (Lloyd) Walls, all of Jonesboro, AR, and Linda Gail Guy of Little Rock, AR; uncles, Lovelle Dean and Clayton Dean, both of Inkster, MI and Larry (Shadonna) Dean of Kansas City, MO; sister, Yvette Gaddes of Inkster, MI and a host of other relatives and friends. Services were held at St John's Missionary Baptist Church with Rev. Hardy Johnson officiating. Interment was at Northlawn memorial Park, Canton, MI. Final arrangements were entrusted to Penn Funeral Home, Inkster, MI.



REED, Joyce A., died February 27, 2008. She leaves to cherish her memories her daughters, Crystal (Calvin) Carter, Adele (Rev. Sylvester) Hickson, Casandra Johnson and Roberta Bailey; sons, Harold Lopez and Horace Lopez; grandchildren, Mario (Kelly),

Cassandra (Anthony), Kelita, Deshawn, Kelli, Charles, Joyce, Jarvis, Erica, Shakira, Michael and Brittney; eight great grandchildren; brothers, Julius (Denise) Edwards, Jerry Edwards, Terry (Minnie) Edwards and Walter Edwards; sister, Barbara Fox; mother-in-law, Polly Lopez; special friends, Reggie Pouge, Wyoma Higginbatham and Jack Strong; and a multitude of other relatives and friends. Services were held at Mt. Olive Baptist Church, Romulus, MI with Rev. James A. Thompson, Sr. officiating. Final arrangements were entrusted to Penn Funeral Home, Inkster, MI.

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30. Help Wanted

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31. Sales Help Wanted

ACCOUNT REPRESENTATIVES NEEDED The Journal Newspapers has immediate openings for sales representatives to serve our circulation area. Candidates must have reliable transportation and a will-

ing attitude. Base plus commission. Newspaper or media sales experience preferred, but will train the right candidate. Please send resume detailing experience and availability to:

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Journal Newspaper Group
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Christian Education (9:15 a.m.-11:00 a.m.)
Morning Worship Service (11:15 a.m.-1:30 p.m.)
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New Jerusalem Missionary Baptist Church
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Tel: 313-565-3006
Morning Worship 10:45 a.m.

40. Business Opportunity

Looking for more business referrals? The Masters of Opportunity chapter of BNI meets every Friday from 7am to 8:30am at the Wayne Tree Manor. Visitors are Welcome. Call Trish at: 734-890-1250

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42. Health and Fitness

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Whether you need supplies, or have supplies to donate, or have questions about the program, call Cathy at 734-699-5565

59. Auctions

AUTO AUCTION J & T Crova Towing 36573 Grant St. Romulus, MI 48174 (734) 941-0221 Wed., March. 26, 2008 9:00AM

Kawasaki Snowmobile ST440A004563

1996 Dodge Neon 1B3ES42C8TD592986

1991 Ford Probe 1ZVPT22L9M5102072

1994 Ford Probe 1ZVLT22B6R5142526

1992 Pontiac Bonneville 1G2HX53L6N1216507

1999 Benlee Tlr 1B9A14368XB183405

Public Auto Auction Wed., March 19, 2008 8:00AM Westland Service Towing 300 S. Newburgh Westland, MI 48186

94 Chev. Camaro 2Dr Black 2G1FP22S2R2158585

Watch for daily news updates on our website www.journalgroup.com

60. Misc. Sales

Granite & Remodeling Co. MOVING & REMNANT SALE! Beautiful granite, marble & quartz remnants from \$10/sq. ft.!! Perfect for smaller projects including vanity tops, desk & table tops, galley kitchens & fireplace hearths.

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61. Misc. Items

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\$160 KING PILLOWTOP Mattress Set NEW in Bag Can Deliver (734) 891-8481

\$75 QUEEN PILLOWTOP Mattress set NEW in Plastic. Can Deliver (734) 891-8481

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THE BANK JOB

Typical heist-gone-bad
film saved by performances



Reviewed By
Luke Warm
Special Writer

Robbing a bank is never as simple as it's supposed to be. Just ask Terry Leather (Jason Statham), a London car dealer sometimes given to mischief. He may be a borderline small-time criminal, but when he's offered the chance to knock over a bank by an old flame, Martine Love (Saffron Burrows), he can't resist. That's the premise for *The Bank Job*, a heist-gone-wrong story set in London in the 1970s. Based on a true story, it's fairly obvious that the names of all involved have been changed. Terry Leather? Martine Love? Come on! Anyway, the film opens as Leather is visited by some decidedly unhappy thugs trying to collect on a debt. Leather is tired of his life and is looking for something big to allow him to get ahead of the game and make a better life for himself, his wife and two children. Enter Love. In order to avoid a drug-running charge, she makes a deal with Tim Everett (Richard Lintern) to break into the vault of a London bank and take the contents of safety deposit box 118—it con-

tains compromising pictures of a member of the royal family that are being used as blackmail material by a black militant, Michael X (Peter De Jersey), who spends most of the movie talking in a bad accent, raising his fist into the air and hanging out with someone who looks alarmingly like John Lennon. Conveniently, there is a store for lease two doors down from said bank and all Leather and his crew of misfits need to do is tunnel underneath, open up the vault from the floor, ransack the place and split off into their separate dreams. What could be easier than that? *The Bank Job* may be based on true events—the 1971 robbing of Lloyds Bank on Baker Street—but it also refers back to several better heist movies. You have Leather assembling his crew, a general atmosphere of mistrust, a few close calls while the job is going down and so on. Things go bad for Leather and company because it turns out Michael X isn't the only nefarious character storing blackmail photos

in the vault. There is a local porn king who keeps a ledger of payoffs to crooked police officers there. A high-price madam keeps recordings of her high-profile clientele—which range from the aforementioned police officers to high-ranking government officials. Soon, every crook and cop in the U.K. is after Leather, who tries desperately to keep ahead of the mess. He's somewhat successful, but to say any more would be spoiling it. *The Bank Job* succeeds on some levels—the acting is solid, particularly Statham, who recently starred in the forgettable 'Dungeon Siege' movie. The dialogue is good and cracking, the villains convincing and the payoff believable. There are a few holes along the way, but what would expect from a movie based on an event that was covered up so thoroughly it all but vanished from media coverage less than a week after it happened. But who cares about all of that stuff. *The Bank Job* is an entertaining 110 minutes. It's not the best heist movie ever made, but it is far from the worst.

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FRI/SAT LS 11:00, 11:30

DOOMSDAY (R)
11:55, 2:25, 4:55, 7:25, 9:55

NEVER BACK DOWN (PG-13)
11:30, 2:00, 4:30, 7:15, 9:45


10,000 B.C. (PG-13)
11:05, 1:50, 4:25, 6:50, 9:15
FRI/SAT LS 11:40

BANK JOB (R)
11:50, 2:10, 4:45, 7:10, 9:40
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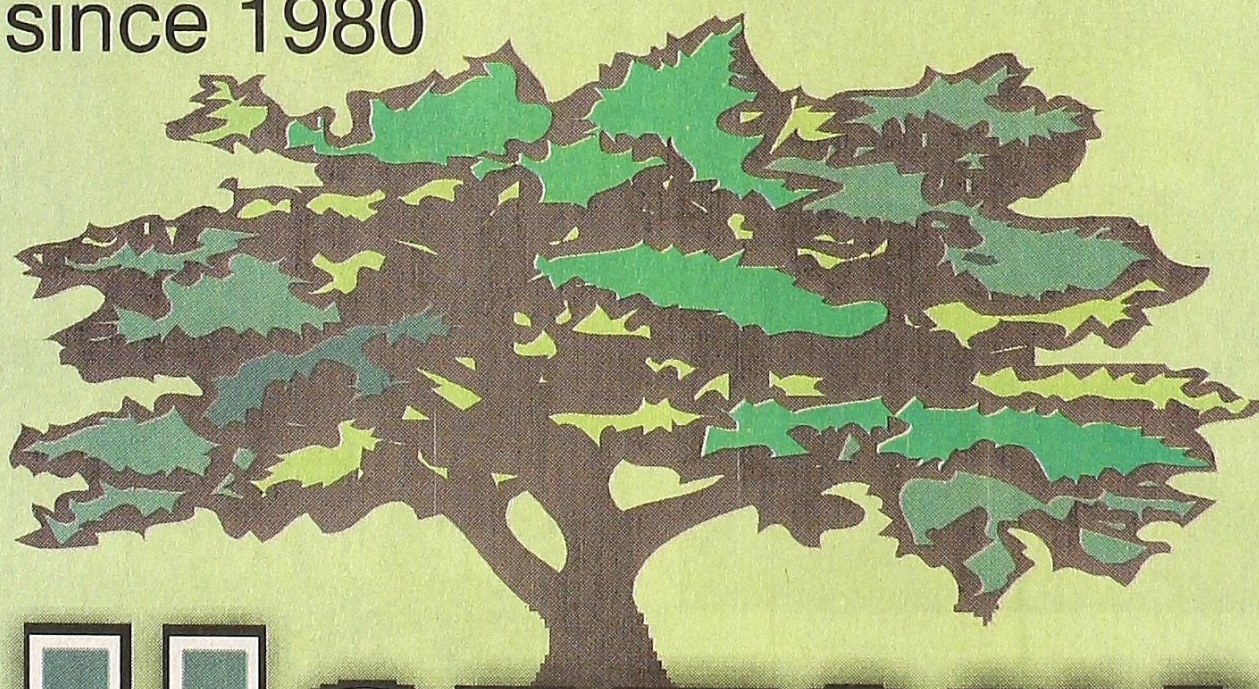
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